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LATIN AMERICAN COLLECTION

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Renato Espinoza

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

LISTEN LIBERALS!

**A Description of
Puerto Rico's New
Struggle for
Liberation**

by

Rodolfo Rodriguez

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THE YEAR IS NOW 2018!

Today is Friday, March 12, 2018.

Seventy-three years ago, on July 25, 1945, the Germans invaded the United States of America. The German military seized control of 13 percent of your best arable land to convert it into German military bases. Your best seaports, those on the eastern coast, were also taken over by the Germans for the use of the German Navy. What in 1945 were the best cattle-raising areas of your country are now military installations. The Germans claim that it is in their best national interest to have those military installations in America.

After the invasion, the Germans set up a military regime. Later on they imposed German citizenship upon you Americans even though you opposed it through the representatives you elected to your only elective body -- the Chamber of Delegates. The Germans also tried to assimilate your people. Remember when, in the first decades after the invasion, they forced the teaching of German in all public schools? And when they made you sing the German national anthem? And pledge allegiance to the German flag and nation?

Your communications are now controlled by the German Federal Communications Commission with headquarters in Bonn. Those Americans who are well known for being pro-American cannot obtain the necessary licenses to operate radio or television stations. However, exiles from the island of Zuba have been granted permits. The news that comes in and goes out of your country is now filtered through German controlled news agencies: the German Associated Press and the German United Press International.

American boys are now recruited to go to foreign lands to fight for the Germans. Some of your sons never return home. Others come back from the battlefield physically handicapped or mentally ill. Many of your mothers protest when they are given a ten thousand dollar check and a German flag from the German government after their children have died in those wars.

Some of your pro-German fathers, however, stimulate your boys to go to fight for the Germans, to serve in the German Army, and to join the German ROTC units at the American universities. Some of those fathers are proud members of the Veterans of German Foreign Wars and the German Legion.

Seventy-three years after the invasion by the Germans your hotels in Miami Beach and the cafes, restaurants, souvenir shops and other businesses surrounding those hotels are owned by German capitalists who live in Germany. Some of your best beaches there have been closed to you, the American people, so that the German tourists and military can swim in peace in your waters.

Over 80 percent of the industries in America are now owned and controlled by German capitalists. As a rule, they do not pay local taxes for ten to seventeen years -- sometimes even more. Occasionally they close their businesses immediately after the tax exemption expires, or when the workers decide to organize for better wages and working conditions. Those same capitalists pay the American workers only one-half to two-thirds what they pay in Germany to German workers for doing exactly the same job. In addition, the cost of living in the United States is at least 12.5 percent higher than the cost of living in Germany.

Maybe good labor unions could help your workers to earn better salaries; to learn the technological skills that they need; to obtain better working conditions, better medical care, education, housing, etc., but 80 percent of your workers are not members of labor unions. Moreover, when they protest their working conditions and try to organize labor unions, the German trained American policemen are called in to beat and jail the protesters. Because of these abuses clandestine armed groups or urban guerrillas are now bombing and burning German businesses and companies both in the United States and in Germany. Like the privateers of the thirteen colonies they hit the enemy where it hurts him the most: in his pockets.

In addition to all this, the Germans have now converted

the United States into a forced monopoly market of Germany. That monopoly market makes you pay an average of 20 percent over the price in international markets for all the merchandise you import from Germany. Over 90 percent of the products you consume are now coming from Germany. Thus, you pay hundreds of millions of dollars for the imports from Germany. American agriculture, by the way, has disappeared almost completely under German influence.

Because the United States is poor, over one-third of your population has had to emigrate to the German ghettos and farms to work for starvation wages. Those immigrants who are blond and blue-eyed, who learn German quickly, adopt German ways and obey orders without hesitation, are able to make it in that German society. But they are a very small minority. The great majority of your people do not know German, are not blond and blue-eyed, and do not want to become Germans. They see no reason to change their ways, to change their language, and they refuse, consciously and unconsciously, to be assimilated. Consequently, they are at the bottom of the socioeconomic ladder of German society. But the ultimate reason for their behavior lies in the exploitation of the American land, people and resources by the German imperialists.

The horrible socioeconomic conditions which exist in both the United States and the German ghettos and farms are leading many of your people to psychological as well as physical self-destruction: the young are shooting heroin into their veins; the old are taking refuge in superstition, in alcohol, in sleeping pills, in tranquilizers. Some are committing suicide. Some are directing their aggression towards their family, some towards neighbors, some towards other minority groups who are as exploited as they are. Some blame fate or destiny. Others blame themselves. Others blame other people. Meanwhile, German sociologists, psychologists, and psychiatrists are studying and re-studying the so-called "deviant behavior" of your oppressed Americans. They wonder and wonder and experiment and experiment with new treatment plans trying to cure the "diseased." Like typical liberals they

try to cure the tree by cutting the branches, but they would never dare to go to the roots. Oh no! That would mean being radical. That would mean risking being called names: subversive, communist, or radic-lib.

These unbearable conditions have motivated some of the American intellectuals, students, workers, and clergy of different denominations, both in the United States and in Germany, to rebel. They are demanding political independence for the United States. The Germans respond that if you want independence from them you should go to the polls and ask for it. The Germans, however, did not ask you to vote on whether you wanted them to invade and take over the United States. In addition, the German Congress has the last word on whether they will grant you independence or not. How can you be sure that they are not going to refuse it even if all the American people ask for it?

During recent years your struggle has become more and more polarized. The contradictions between the interests of the German military-industrial complex and the interests of the American people are coming out into the open more and more each day:

IN THE SOUTHWEST - two big German copper companies are trying to take away your recently discovered copper deposits. Two billion dollars worth of copper! The rape is simple to describe: the companies would not pay federal taxes at all; they would not pay local taxes for 17 years; the best paid technicians would be Germans, not Americans; the Americans would do the dirty jobs for very low salaries; and the mining method used in the exploitation would be the "open pit system," which would bring about the pollution of your rivers and air, the destruction of your flora and fauna, etc. Some of your people have answered this threat by saying that they will not allow one single pound of copper to be taken away to enrich further the German capitalists. Some of these people are now campaigning against the exploitation near the sites of the copper deposits.

IN MIAMI, FLORIDA - the American people are holding "swim-ins" on your beaches, asserting the right of your people to use those beaches. (Remember that the German Hilton and the German military have prohibited the use of your beaches by the American people.) When you hold the swim-ins, the German trained American police break your heads and take you to jail, but you come out and go back to the beaches, to your beaches. Meanwhile, once in a while, when they so choose, the clandestine Armed Commandoes for Liberation and the Armed Revolutionary Movement for Independence plant a bomb in one of the German hotels. In this way the American people are also saying that they do not want Florida to become another Hawaii, where Americans would be entertaining the Germans by dancing the hula-hula. The Americans want to be the owners and managers of the hotels -- not the dancers, janitors and dishwashers for the Germans' entertainment.

IN MANHATTAN (where only American fishermen live) - the German Navy is doing its "Springboard Operations," bombing your land and destroying the coral formations in the sea where fish are bred. Your fishermen's nets are also being destroyed by German, Canadian, Brazilian, and other countries' ships, under the supervision of the German military. Manhattanites and other Americans from the rest of the nation stage a peaceful protest, but fifteen of them (a German Quaker included) are arrested and sent to jail. Your people are now starting to answer such actions of the German imperialists by saying that "To violate the laws of the empire is to honor the laws of the fatherland."

IN YOUR UNIVERSITIES THROUGHOUT THE LAND - German military officers and Americans who are loyal members of the German military establishment are teaching in the German ROTC units. Your young American boys are being taught to grant their first loyalty to Germany, to pledge allegiance to the German flag, to sing the German national anthem. They are taught that Germany is their nation, and that the United States is their fatherland. They are taught that everything the Germans have done in the past was right, that the Germans are the champions of the world, the liberators of the

oppressed. The teachers at those ROTC units proudly point to the "fact" that the Germans have never been defeated militarily. In these pro-German, anti-American centers of propaganda, in these German ROTC units, your boys are "educated" (brainwashed) every day through lectures, readings, movies, etc. That is the reason why there is trouble now at the University of America. The American students who want to see an America free from German political, economic, military and cultural oppression have asked the German Armed Forces to stop these practices at the American universities. Your professors and University administrators elected to the Academic Council have voted to remove the ROTC from the University of America. Nevertheless, the colonial Council on Higher Education (whose members are appointed by the colonial president) has ignored the will of the students, professors and administrators and has decided that the ROTC will stay at the University. Stimulated by this, the German and pro-German military officers, policemen, ROTC cadets and other right-wing elements have been provoking your pro-American boys. Just two days ago a group of pro-German ROTC cadets entered the Student Union of the University of America waving a German flag over the heads of the American students. Yesterday they came to the University wearing their German uniforms. Your boys, as expected, got angry. Somehow open violence erupted. The University rector, one of those American colonialists who owes his post and loyalty to the Germans and to the colonial president, called the "Police Shock Troop" (Riot Squad) onto the campus. Of course, it was not the first time that this has happened: three years ago, in a similar situation, the police were called onto the campus. At that time a taxi driver was shot by the police. After the police conducted an "investigation" into the incident, they concluded that it was impossible to know where the bullet had come from. Last year a 21 year old girl was shot by the police while she was looking down from a balcony. At first your boys used to fight the police with empty hands while the police used sticks and guns. Later on your boys got bottles and rocks, but the police used more guns. Still later your boys learned how to make and use Molotov cocktails, but still this could not

stop the German trained cops. It has been reported that yesterday, for the first time, your pro-American students have started to use guns. Newspapers carry pictures of policemen, cadets and students with guns in their hands. In the battle that followed the chief of the Riot Squad, another police sergeant, and a ROTC cadet were killed. Dozens of pro-American students were wounded by bullets, arrested, and beaten in the police stations. A lawyer for the students and a German United Press International reporter who was initially thought by the police to be a "separatist" were beaten almost to death by rioting policemen. The homes, businesses, automobiles and other property of several pro-American separatists were burned by pro-German mobs while police stood by, watching, but without interfering with, the actions of the mob. The local pro-German president and other pro-German elements accuse the "subversive communist students trained in the communist island of ZUBA" of provoking the violence. Somehow they cannot -- or do not want to -- understand that violence has always been there: pervasive institutionalized violence and physical violence every now and then.

What is deplorable is that the American people are killing each other. What is deplorable is that your poorly paid and exploited American policemen are used to put down your own people. Meanwhile ... in Germany ... the Germans are watching over you.

In Germany the average German is getting the news over the German Associated Press and German United Press International cables. Those cables are stressing that you are killing each other because your "subversive separatist students" do not want to see pro-German American boys in German uniforms. However, no background to the events is presented in that "news."

To the German people who read those cables, to the German military-industrial complex, and to the colonialist, pro-German elements in your nation -- you are guilty. According to the colonial laws of your nation you are guilty, but before the laws of decency and honor you know that you are not guilty. You also know

that you cannot blame all the German people. You know that the guilty ones are the German imperialists -- a very small minority of German capitalists and military, that small group of oppressors -- who benefit not only from your exploitation but from the exploitation of their own people as well. They control the economic power. They control political decisions. They make the laws. Because of this, loyal Americans have promised that they will keep defying the laws of the German empire until the German imperialists leave the Americans in peace. It is predictable that the struggle will continue to polarize further and further until all Americans come to face the ultimate reality: that the United States must be free of all foreign political, economic, military and cultural domination. It is expected that if the just demands of the American people are satisfied there will be love and peace. But if those demands are not met -- if, on the contrary, brute force is used to repress the struggle -- then there will be hatred and war. No one likes violence for the sake of violence. But if violence is used to repress a just struggle then those who use the violence or do nothing to stop violence on the part of the aggressors should not feel upset if the victims also start using violence to defend themselves.

To a large extent the use of violence by loyal Americans against the German empire will be determined by how much violence the German empire uses against the American people. But it will also depend on what position liberal Germans take at home. If German liberals living in Germany give their support to the anti-colonialist struggle of the Americans (as in the case of Algeria's struggle for independence from France) and press their government to grant freedom to their colony, the violence could be greatly reduced or even completely eliminated. It is now in the hands of the German people to take a position either in favor of the oppressors or in favor of the oppressed. Time is running short.

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Rodolfo Rodriguez

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